



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS
EXECUTIVE

LINDA V. PARKER
DIRECTOR

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Contacts:

Trevor Coleman, Director of Communications
Office: 313-456-3790 Cell: 517-712-5812

Harold Core: Director of Public Affairs
Lansing: 517-241-3986

FACT SHEET

College Students and Voting

As part of an aggressive voter education campaign the Michigan Department of Civil Rights issues the below facts to clarify the voting rights and responsibilities of university and college students in Michigan.

If you are registered to vote, you may do so by:

- 1) Voting at the correct precinct in person on Election Day.
- 2) Voting in person by absentee ballot at your local clerk's office between now and Election Day if you will not be present in the precinct on Election Day (or if you meet another requirement for absentee voting). Contact your local clerk for more information.
- 3) If you have voted in Michigan before or if you registered to vote in person, you have until 2:00PM on November 1st to request your local clerk mail you an absentee ballot, but the clerk must receive the completed ballot by Election Day.
- 4) If you are a first time Michigan voter, it may be possible to appear at another clerk or secretary of state office in person to establish your identity and address, and then ask your clerk to mail you an absentee ballot. Consider this option only if there is sufficient time for you to receive the ballot and get it back to the clerk by Election Day. Contact your local clerk if you need to consider this option.

If you are registered to vote, you can still vote if your name does not appear on the local clerk's list of registered voters. Do not give up! If you registered by October 6th, you can still vote!

- **If you have your registration receipt**, just show it and you can vote.
- If you don't have a receipt – ask the election worker to help you **make sure you are in the correct precinct.**
- If you're in the wrong place – go to the right one. **Your vote will not be counted if you cast it in the wrong precinct.**
- **Only if you are positive you are in the correct precinct, ask for a provisional ballot.** You will be asked to fill out a new application and answer some questions about where you

live and when you registered. If your answers establish that you should be on the list, you will be able to vote.

- **Provisional ballots** may go into the scanner and be counted immediately or they may go into a sealed envelope for the clerk to review later. If your ballot is placed in an envelope you will be given instructions on how to follow up to be sure your vote is counted.

If you are voting for the first time in a Michigan election and register by mail or a voter registration drive, you must vote in person. This does not apply if you are over 60, residing overseas or a person with a disability.

Absentee ballot applications can be downloaded from <http://www.michigan.gov/vote> or requested from your city or township clerk's office. Complete the form and mail or deliver it to your city or township clerk before 2:00PM, on Saturday November 1, 2008. You have until 8:00 PM on Election Day to complete the ballot and return it to the clerk's office. Only you, a family member or person residing in your household, a mail carrier, or election official is authorized to deliver your absentee ballot. The signature on the ballot must match the registration signature and signature on the application for the absentee ballot.